

Claim Amendments

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - using a logic design element in a logic design;
 - performing a simulation of the logic design that includes simulating the logic design element; and
 - having the logic design element automatically collect and store instrumentation data during the simulation, wherein the instrumentation data represents usage and performance related statistics that relate to the logic design element;
wherein the logic design element represents a FIFO memory, and
the instrumentation data collected by the logic design element comprises a
degree of fullness of the FIFO memory.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising receiving a query to display the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element, wherein displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element in response to the query.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data after performing the simulation.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data while performing the simulation.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein:
performing the simulation includes performing a partial simulation,
having the logic design element automatically collect the instrumentation data includes having the logic design element automatically collect the instrumentation data during the partial simulation, and
displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data after performing the partial simulation.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7_1 wherein having the FIFO memory automatically collect the instrumentation data includes having the FIFO memory record usage of the FIFO memory during the simulation.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7_1 further comprising:
receiving a query to display the instrumentation data relating to the FIFO memory, and
displaying the instrumentation data relating to the FIFO memory in response to the query.

10-12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~machine-accessible medium~~ computer readable storage medium storing instructions which when accessed results in a machine performing operations comprising:

using a logic design element in a logic design;

performing a simulation of the logic design that includes simulating the logic design element;

having the logic design element automatically collect instrumentation data during the simulation, wherein the instrumentation data represents usage and performance related statistics that relate to the logic design element; and

displaying the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element; ;

wherein the logic design element represents a tri-state bus, and

the instrumentation data collected by the logic design element comprises a number of occurrences of bus error conditions experienced by the tri-state bus.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine-accessible~~ computer readable storage medium of claim 13 further comprising receiving a query to display the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element, wherein displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element in response to the query.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine-accessible computer readable storage~~ medium of claim 13 wherein displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data after performing the simulation.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine-accessible computer readable storage~~ medium of claim 13 wherein displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data while performing the simulation.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine-accessible computer readable storage~~ medium of claim 13 wherein:

performing the simulation includes performing a partial simulation, having the logic design element automatically collect the instrumentation data includes having the logic design element automatically collect the instrumentation data during the partial simulation, and

displaying the instrumentation data includes displaying the instrumentation data after performing the partial simulation.

19-22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine-accessible computer readable storage~~ medium of claim ~~22~~ 13 wherein having the tri-state bus automatically collect the instrumentation data includes having the tri-state bus automatically collect usage of the tri-state bus during the simulation.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine-accessible computer readable storage~~ medium of claim ~~22~~ 13 further comprising:

receiving a query to display the instrumentation data relating to the tri-state bus, and

displaying the instrumentation data relating to the tri-state bus in response to the query.

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a simulation module that is structured and arranged to perform a simulation of a logic design that includes a logic design element;

a collection module that is integrated with the logic design element and that is structured and arranged to automatically collect and store instrumentation data, which represents usage and performance related statistics relating to the logic design element during the simulation; and

a processor to execute modules of the apparatus; wherein the logic design element represents a tri-state bus, and the instrumentation data collected by the logic design element comprises a number of occurrences of bus error conditions experienced by the tri-state bus.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 further comprising a display module that is structured and arranged to display the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising an interface module that is structured and arranged to receive a query to display the instrumentation data relating to the design element, wherein the display module is structured and arranged to display the instrumentation data relating to the logic design element in response to the query.

28. (Canceled).

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein:
the logic design element includes a tri-state bus, and
the collection module is integrated with the tri-state bus and is structured and arranged to automatically collect the instrumentation data relating to the tri-state bus during the simulation.

30-31. (Canceled).

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine accessible medium~~ method of claim 13 1 wherein
~~the logic design element represents a FIFO memory, and~~
the instrumentation data collected by the logic design element comprises statistics regarding usage of the FIFO memory.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~machine accessible medium~~ method of claim 13 1 wherein

~~the logic design element represents a FIFO memory, and~~
the instrumentation data collected by the logic design element comprises a percentage of time a word of the FIFO memory was in use.

34. (Currently Amended) The machine accessible medium of claim 13 wherein
~~the logic design element represents a tri-state bus, and~~
the instrumentation data collected by the logic design element comprises a number of simulation cycles a tri-state bus driver drove the tri-state bus.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of claim 25 1 wherein
~~the logic design element represents a FIFO memory, and~~
the instrumentation data collected by the collection module of the logic design element comprises a quantity of valid entries present in the FIFO memory during the simulation.

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus method of claim 25 1 wherein
~~the logic design element represents a FIFO memory, and~~
the instrumentation data collected by the collection module of the logic design element comprises a quantity of read and write pointers used by the FIFO memory during the simulation.

37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein
~~the logic design element represents a tri-state bus, and~~

the instrumentation data collected by the collection module of the logic design element comprises a percentage of time a tri-state bus driver drove the tri-state bus during the simulation.